

GREAT AND GROWING WEST

Irrigation Will Change Deserts to Gardens and Provide Lands for Millions of Homes.

ROOSEVELT'S STRONG, FRIENDLY HAND

A Policy that Increases the Sum of Human Happiness and Enlarges and Strengthens the Republic.

When President Roosevelt said, "I BELONG WEST OF THE MISSOURI RIVER," he spoke from his heart. It was not that he loved the east less, but the west more.

He felt that, in a certain way, the country at large did not properly appreciate this rugged, big brother, whose wonderful development and accomplishments are destined to bring the greatest fame and riches to the family—the Nation. He got acquainted with this big brother and found out that he was worth winning and saving. He started out at once upon his patriotic and philanthropic mission.

Mr. Roosevelt firmly believes there is nothing too good for the west. He has put that section next to its immeasurable future, by the National Irrigation Act; which, it is universally admitted, could not have become a law without his urgent personal influence in the House, any more than without his signature as President. Then, there is his "Open Door" policy in China, and the Panama Canal, assured as a permanent highway to the world's commerce. These measures are vitally associated with the west.

Knows and Loves the West.
No other President has ever spoken at such length or so explicitly on the subject of irrigation. It is equally true that no other President ever had so wide an acquaintance with the subject as Mr. Roosevelt possesses. He is, as it were, an adopted child of the west and knows its wants and sympathies with them. The proposed reservoirs in connection with the reclamation service will band for the great empire beyond the Mississippi the waters necessary to add the desert reaches there to habitations and productivity. This will insure the enduring qualities of his fame. His knowledge of the west shines through all his utterances. He holds that irrigation is the coming necessity, and that by it our natural resources can be uncovered to a degree undreamed of and our population and industry more than doubled within our continental limits. His work here will mark the special achievement of his administration, and his irrigation proclamation will go down in history as one of the greatest acts of any President.

Potency of National Act.
The National Irrigation Act is gauged on an honest, intelligent, extensive plan, well considered, and will be wisely tried out. By it we will be able to add to all former triumphs of this Republic new illustrations of our power to do things. By a system of judicious forestry almost the entire area can be re-forested, in a hundred years. The climate could be changed and improved. We could give an impetus to every kind of trade, which, with our new advantages in the Orient, would more than double the volume of our present commercial traffic. In this area of intense agricultural and horticultural development will be created a field for the exercise of every kind of skill and every attainment of handicraft. Here many of the vexed social and economic questions are destined to be settled. In giving to the Nation a race of land-owners, a race of men and women will be insured who, by interest, instinct and choice, will be patriots.

Innate Home-owning Desire.
There is an innate desire in the heart of the Anglo-Saxon American to own a home. There is an inherent yearning of the common people, apparent on every page of history, to own in fee simple some portion of the earth. The desire is still as keen as it ever was. Of all of our wealth producing class, the farmer needs a home most. He must have land, he should by all means own it. His farm need not be so large as some suppose, but it should belong to the farmer, not to some one else. This is not only self-evident because of the advantages to the farmer, but because of its advantages to the Nation at large. It is the cornerstone of our National life; it lies at the root of all true patriotism and all social improvement and content.

Give a man a home upon the soil and you have made him a patriot who will defend your institutions at the ballot box or on the battle field. Open the doors of this great arid west, with the key of National Irrigation, and you need not worry about the future. Let the people have easy access to the land and most of our other troubles will settle themselves. The property owner is a conservative man who loves his family and his country. Let the property owners be as numerous as possible.

Hope for Honest Toil.
The National Irrigation Act, passed by a Republican Congress at Mr. Roosevelt's earnest request and as a result of his personal efforts, has already begun its work of measureless good to American citizenship. It is placing within the reach of the landless man our manless land. It is to speak with a voice that cannot be misunderstood. By combining the two powerful factors of irrigation and reclamation, in its up-building work of the Nation, its mission will be well nigh irresistible. It will lift from the pathway of the bread winner the dead weight of poverty and congestion which has obstructed our national progress, created interminable struggles between capital and labor and threatened to shipwreck our future prosperity.

Expansive Arena of Action.
The arid region, extending in the main from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean and from Mexico to Canada, embraces an area, generally speaking, of about 1,500 miles either way. Here is what is known as arid America. The

country abounds in mountains, plains and valleys. It is here that the government proposes to apply the workings of the National Irrigation Act and to reclaim all of the arid land which may be ascertained to be arable and which is found to be susceptible of reclamation by the amount of water available. Government experts estimate that the present amount of land which may be irrigated is about one hundred million acres. This can be reclaimed by applying the amount of water now available, direct. It is also estimated that after irrigation has been applied to the soil for three or four years, a less quantity of water is necessary and hence an additional area of perhaps fifty millions acres more may possibly be added to the reclamation area.

Nature Did the Needful.
Nature seems to have employed every resource at its command to make the mountain and plain region the most favored portion of the earth's surface for the habitation of man. This section will one day be the seat of empire of the United States, and, consequently, the world. For a distance of more than a thousand miles there are successive chains of mountains, in general course running north and south and on parallel lines, with numerous valleys occupying the immediate ground.

Each valley, large or small, has its stream, carrying, with rapid fall, the melting snows of the tributary mountains. The grades in general favor the operation of irrigating canals which take the water from streams and carry it at a moderate fall to lines above the cultivated land. As the spring season advances, the rainfall decreases, the crops need more and more water, which is furnished automatically by the gradual increase of the temperature along and up the mountain side, reaching the lightest deposit of snow first, and then, during the later and hotter months, drawing upon the reserve of the deeper and less easily melted ice at the higher altitudes.

Fertility of Arid Soil.
Under the rains of centuries much of the soluble plant foods in eastern soils have been washed into the sea. Where no rainfall exists the plant food remains. The government analyses of soils show that the arid lands average three times as much potash, six times as much magnesia and fourteen times as much lime as the humid lands. Any farmer will tell you that a limestone country is a rich country. To replace the food taken by growing plants the eastern farmer resorts to fertilizers and manure. Starting with a rich soil, the irrigatorist also finds fertilizing strength in the water he uses. The manurial value held in solution in 36 inches of water—the amount applied to one acre in a season at the University of Arizona—amounted to \$0.07. Ten acres under irrigation average better returns than 40-acre crops, in the usual way.

Land Very Valuable.
In those communities of the west which have been created by irrigation, the average yield of wheat, potatoes and small fruits far exceeds that of the best farming district in Iowa or Missouri or the best part of the Mississippi Valley. Although comparatively remote from the world's markets for products, an acre of land under water rights in the very heart of the arid region, will command a higher price than an acre in the humid Mississippi Valley. The farmers have learned that 40 acres, well tilled, will yield more profit than 400 acres farmed in the old, haphazard way. Intensive farming and larger profits from smaller farms are making closely settled communities, establishing nearer neighbors, schools, churches and libraries, and the isolation of old farm life no longer exists. The farmer makes more money, and the deadly memory of life does not drive his children from home, or his wife to the insane asylum.

Roosevelt Immortalized.
The passage of the National Irrigation Act is tantamount to saying that the west is already redeemed—it is now only a question of time. Perhaps no law has been passed since the foundation of this government which has been or can be so prolific in great and lasting results to the United States. No law has ever been enacted which will add so much stability, wealth, happiness and general prosperity to the people and the government as the National Irrigation Law.

Here is a new field for the most hopeful speculation. It cannot be that any human mind has yet been able to estimate the far-reaching, the fruitful results which will follow in the wake of this National Act. Lincoln is immortalized for his Emancipation Proclamation. Roosevelt will be immortalized because he has done that which will set free from the thrall of the congested centers of population, millions of families who can and will feel grateful to him and his memory as they sit under their own vine and fig tree and enjoy all the comforts and contentment of their new and enlarged life of health, happiness and usefulness.

Make it easy for the average citizen to become a land owner and you strengthen tenfold his allegiance and devotion to his country and family. Millions can now get homes in the irrigated West, under the National Irrigation Act.

By actual test in southern California it has been found—counting the urban and rural populations together—that one and one-half acres of irrigated land will support one person, and it is estimated that this can ultimately be reduced to a single acre for each individual.



(Reproduced from Philadelphia Inquirer.)
A sad blow—burying the first-born in Vermont.

BILLION DOLLAR COUNTRY

Facts Which It Is Desirable to Bear in Mind.

Evidently Judge Parker has lost track of the fact that the United States has become a billion-dollar country, while he has been dreaming away his manhood on the bench at Albany. Otherwise it is impossible to account for his acceptance of "the Republican challenge to a comparison of Democratic and Republican administrations."

If there is any issue before the American people upon which the Republicans are more ready to appeal to the voters than another, it is that relating to the administration of national finances. But they will not let Judge Parker, or the hungry aggregation of Democratic editors to whom he addressed his Rip Van Winkle remarks, ignore the fact that the United States of 1904 deals with billions, where in Cleveland's first administration its finances could be discussed in terms of nine figures. Neither will they permit him to compare net expenditures under Cleveland with extraordinary appropriations under McKinley and Roosevelt.

When he makes his comparisons between the expenditures of 1885-1888 with those of 1901-1903 he will not be permitted to ignore such facts as the increase in postal expenditures from \$50,942,415 in 1885 to \$138,784,487 in 1903, and that the excess of expenditures on account of the postal service over receipts last year was only \$4,560,044, as compared with \$8,381,572.

As an index of the growth of the United States in every direction that marks advance in national welfare there can be no better standard than the increased use of an ever improving and extending mail service. Neither will Judge Parker nor the editors to whom he unbosomed a choice medley of ideas from the wit and wisdom of Samuel J. Tilden and Grover Cleveland, be permitted to "point with Democratic pride" to the enforced economies of Cleveland's second term 1893-1896, without being confronted with the following deficits that waited on Democratic policy and Democratic administration:

DEFICITS DURING CLEVELAND'S SECOND TERM.

1894	.....	\$20,903,231
1895	.....	42,906,223
1896	.....	25,202,246

With no exceptional expenditures, over \$200,000,000 was added to the public debt during Cleveland's term.

And when they are discussing the expense of running the government of a people that has increased nearly 50 per cent. in population and more than 100 per cent. in wealth since Grover Cleveland was first inaugurated, Republicans will not forget to remind American voters of such billion-dollar facts as these:

MONEY IN CIRCULATION.

1885	.....	1903
\$1,292,568,615	.....	\$2,367,692,109
Deposits in National Banks	.....	\$3,240,993,599
Deposits in Savings Banks	.....	\$1,035,172,147
Deposits in State Banks	.....	\$2,035,204,845
\$344,307,916	.....	\$1,814,570,163
Deposits in Loan and Trust Companies	.....	\$188,417,203
Total Imports	.....	\$1,589,398,796
\$577,527,829	.....	\$1,025,719,237
Total Exports	.....	\$1,420,141,679
\$742,159,755	.....

VALUE OF FARMS.
(Estimated on Census returns for 1880, 1890 and 1900.)

1885	.....	1903
\$14,000,000,000	.....	\$22,000,000,000
(a) Value of Farm Animals	.....	\$2,456,428,283
Production of Minerals	.....	\$1,290,649,293
\$427,808,080	.....
Freight tons carried one mile by Railways	.....	\$2,862,970,529
Tons	.....	172,221,278,063
(at 1.04 cents per ton mile)	.....	763 cents per ton mile
Wages in Manufacturing Industry	.....	\$947,563,795
.....	.....	\$2,328,621,254

Bewildering and incomprehensible as are these billions in many respects, they yet present a demonstration of the growth of our country so clear and simple as to be within the comprehension of a child. Only one word need be added to rectify what might be an erroneous impression from the figures as to the value of farm animals (a). During the second administration of Cleveland this value shrank from \$2,456,428,283 in 1893 to \$1,290,649,293 in 1896, from which it has since risen to over \$3,100,000,000.

It almost seems as if the earth and the mine refused to bring forth their natural increase under a Democratic administration.

First Voters Read This.
Roosevelt and Fairbanks are both young men, as are a majority of the leaders of the Republican party. If you believe in progress, if you want to see our country the richest and its people the most contented and prosperous on

NOT USED BY DEMOCRATS

Adjectives for Which Parker's Followers Have No Use.

"We know what we mean when we speak of an honest and stable currency," said President Roosevelt in his speech of acceptance. In no official utterance of the Democratic party, or of its candidates for President or Vice President during the last eight years, have the adjectives "honest" or "stable" ever been used to designate the kind of currency Democracy demanded, and this notwithstanding the Democratic phrase makers will use adjectives freely and recklessly whenever they have any "paramount" or "tantamount" idea to advance, like in the platform adopted at St. Louis, which said "the existing Republican administration has been SPASMODIC, ERRATIC, SENSATIONAL, SPECTACULAR AND ARBITRARY."

Alton B. Parker says the gold standard is "irrevocably established," but he does not say that his own personal belief in it as affording an "HONEST AND STABLE CURRENCY" has been irrevocably established, nor, furthermore, that he deemed the Democratic party wrong, when in Congress, in 1890, it almost to a man voted against the establishment of the gold standard.

As the gold standard of value was then "irrevocably established" not by the Democratic party, but by the Republican party, the only gold standard that the Democratic party can honestly claim to have "irrevocably established" is the gold standard of silence on a subject on which it never did talk except to lower itself in the estimation of intelligent people, and to breed apprehension in business circles.

PULITZER'S MISTAKE.
He Does Not Understand the Attitude of Parker.
Joseph Pulitzer did not attend the gathering of Democratic editors which met and communed recently with the Democratic candidate for the presidency, but he wrote a letter of which this was the concluding paragraph:

"It is because I so strongly desire Judge Parker's election that I speak so plainly on this subject. I earnestly beg of you when you see him to-morrow at Esopus, to urge that he accept also the full responsibility of his position; that he will not permit the campaign in New York—the pivotal State—to be mismanaged by the small politicians who beset him."

"Beset." "Beset," indeed! Little is Alton B. Parker "beset" by the small politicians to whom Pulitzer alludes. Those who have, for years, been the vassals of David Bennett Hill or among the operators for Tammany. Alton B. Parker has been one of them himself. Foxy political manager for Hill, who repaid him by an appointment, and who, in the present year, has repaid him further, he is not likely to be "beset" by his own associates. Mr. Pulitzer must be wandering in his mind. It is upon those from whom he wishes Mr. Parker to dissociate himself that Mr. Parker depends for whatever vote he may get in New York—Tammanyites and the Hill benchmen.

The Pleased Democracy.
One private reclamation project near Phoenix, Ariz., created a taxable property of over ten million dollars in less than twenty years, and that from land practically worthless until irrigated.

It was under President Harrison's Republican administration in 1891 that the first Federal forest reserve was established. This was the beginning of actual growth in national forestry.

At the average rate of increase in the past we will have over 160,000,000 people in the United States within the next 30 years. The west must supply most of these with homes.

The Donkey—Say, but this is fine; That's the first time I've been able to make these two wings work together in ten years.—Minneapolis Journal.



OUR FOREIGN TRADE.

It Expands Under Republican and Collapses Under Democratic Policies.

One of the great arguments of the free traders has been that with free trade we would have access to the "markets of the world." Well, the only time the free traders have had control of the government in recent years was in the second Cleveland administration. They did not put actual free trade into operation, but they came close enough to it to put most of the factories of this country out of operation. We did not get the markets of the world. They may have been open to us, but our manufacturers were going out of business so fast, under the ruinous tariff schedules the Democrats had put into effect, that they could not seek the markets of the world. Their own home market, the best one to them, was invaded by cheap foreign goods, however.

Then the protective tariff system was reinstated by the people of this country, and immediately the factories began to turn their wheels again. Within ten years we have demonstrated that the way to get the markets of the world is to protect our own market against invasion, build up our industries, and then branch out for foreign trade.

We have not had anything like free trade within those ten years, and yet we are selling millions of dollars' worth of goods every year in the "markets of the world."

In Congress, last winter, Congressman Hill, of Connecticut, told of a recent visit he had made abroad. He said: "I stood on the deck of a Japanese liner in the harbor of Vladivostok, Russian Siberia. In the hold of that ship was over 700 tons of American agricultural implements that had come across the Pacific ocean from America for the use of the peasants of Siberia, and shipped there under the Dingley tariff bill. That night at the Hotel I met the representative of a locomotive works in Philadelphia who told me he had just put in 150 locomotives, for use in the Siberian railway, shipped there under the Dingley tariff law."

"Next day I rode 500 miles up the banks of the Amur river over American steel rails shipped there under the Dingley tariff law. Then I got aboard a steamer to go up the Amur 1,500 miles. It was American built, towed two steel barges made in Pittsburgh, shipped there under the Dingley tariff law."

"In the village of Gorbizna, Siberia, ten thousand miles from here, the village consisting of a dozen log houses, in a little store not over 8 by 10, we bought a package of candy, wrapped in paper on which was printed the picture of William McKinley, to popularize that candy among the peasants of Siberia, all shipped under the Dingley tariff law."

That looks as if we had a slice of the markets of the world, but we never got anywhere near them under Democratic tariff ideas.

Vilas Arraigns His Own Party.
Former Senator Vilas attended the Wisconsin Democratic State convention held at Oshkosh, where harmony was lacking, and made this statement in closing the debate on the adoption of the platform:

"I came to the Democratic State Convention hoping for harmony and was joyful in that hope. But I find here that the Democratic party is nothing, knows nothing about the great principles on which it was founded, and which has made it a power, and must throw itself away on a mere question of political machinery injected by crafty politicians."

Mr. Vilas has been a long time in finding out what a majority of the voters of the nation learned years ago.

We are not constrained to keep silent on any vital question; we are divided on no vital question; our policy is continuous, and is the same for all sections and localities. There is nothing experimental about the government we ask the people to continue in power, for our performance: in the past, our proved governmental efficiency, is a guarantee as to our promises for the future.—President Roosevelt.

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GASSAWAY'S FAVORITE POEM

(Henry Gassaway Davis' favorite poem is "Excelsior."—Current note.)

The shades of night were falling fast,
When up through West Virginia passed
A youth who held within his hand
A banner with this strange command:
"Fork over."

"What seek ye?" cried the ones he met;
"I seek the bar! I'll find it yet—
I'll get that check we want, you bet."
He sang, as Davisward he set:
"Fork over."

"Try not that task," the maiden cried;
But only fruitlessly she sighed,
For he replied: "We need the stuff,"
And chortled then in accents gruff:
"Fork over."

"O, stay, vain youth," an old man called,
At such self-confidence appalled,
"Dost think his name is Giveaway?"
The youth sang, through the dying day,
"Fork over."

On, on he went, by hill and dale,
Until the night at dawn grew pale,
And then at last, with heart elate,
He murmured to the candidate:
"Fork over."

He saw the barrel round and fair—
Alas! he saw no bungle there!
The candidate without his spec's
To read the banner did not vex—
"Fork over."

"I cannot hear a word," he sighed,
"You heard when you were notified."
The earnest youth at once replied
And then more vigorously cried:
"Fork over."

They found him, frozen stiff and cold,
His banner still within his hold—
And now they send no strange device,
They simply say: "We want the price—
Fork over."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The People Trust Him Both as Man and President.

More and more, as the presidential campaign develops, it becomes apparent that upon one man the American people have fixed their affections and their admiration, and that in him they repose a serene and perfect trust. That man is Theodore Roosevelt.

Four years ago the Republicans of the rank and file demanded the nomination and secured the election of Theodore Roosevelt for Vice President. Against his own wishes, against the advice of his nearest friends, Roosevelt accepted the duties forced upon him by his enthusiastic admirers.

In the dark days which followed the assassination of McKinley the beloved, the old aphorism that "the voice of the people is the voice of God" was called to mind as the American nation noted the gravity, sincerity and thorough competency with which the man they had chosen for Vice President took upon himself the duties of the Presidency.

As the years have passed admiration and respect for Roosevelt have grown, until now he is without doubt the most popular man in the round world. That his popularity is well founded no one who knows the shrewd judgment of Americans will question. No man can occupy the Presidential chair for one year without being justly measured and estimated by the people whose chief executive he is.

From a popular idol, one in whose personal gifts, manly qualities and practical work all men delighted, Roosevelt has grown, in these three years, to be the ideal President of the most powerful Republic the world has ever known, the head of one of the greatest nations of the earth at the present day. Theodore Roosevelt the President—is a figure to be proud of. In every word, in every act of his life, there speaks a clean-minded, courageous-hearted, vigorous and incorruptible individuality. He is the champion of civic probity, of national patriotism, of religious freedom, a worker for and believer in the best opportunities for all men, without regard to class, occupation, theological opinions, politics or race or color.

The young men of the country have in the President one to whom they can loyally look as an example of vigorous manhood, rejoicing as a strong man preparing to run a race. The staid citizen, toiling in the heat of the noonday of life, turns to Roosevelt as his choice out of all men to hold the cares and responsibilities of the public business in his clean, competent hands. The old Republican, he who has borne the brunt of the last strenuous generation, the veteran of the great war for human freedom and the preservation of the Union, beholds in Roosevelt a man worthy to wear the mantle of Lincoln.

The man of the day, the man of the hour, is Theodore Roosevelt. He is a great President because he is a great man. It has come home to every Republican within the first weeks of the campaign that the main strength of the Republican cause this year is its candidate for President. Firmly he is settled in the affections and the respect of the American people. All Republicans will vote for him, and thousands upon thousands of men from other parties will vote for him because he is a man of strong fibre, the sort of man that every other man naturally loves and trusts.

There is no weak spot in the character of Theodore Roosevelt the man. There is no "yellow streak." Outspoken, fearless, definitely forceful, his ideas and opinions are well known to his countrymen, and his works are as clean, as straightforward and clear cut as are his ideas.

He will be our next President, and he will carry with him into the office when he is elected the entire confidence of the American people.

The Wisdom of a Centenarian.
Benjamin Brown, of Richview, Illinois, has been somewhat neglectful concerning his registration as a voter. Now he is registered, because he wants to vote for Roosevelt. The only remarkable feature about this case is that Mr. Benjamin Brown is just one hundred years of age. But, after all, even this feature is not remarkable, because no American citizen who has acquired the wisdom of a hundred years could do anything else than vote for Roosevelt in this campaign.

To irrigate is to populate. Irrigation depends for its success upon population. Colonization is the populating of hitherto unoccupied tracts of land.